

CLAIMS

1. A cash management system comprising:

a first cash handling device for performing at least one of the operations of coin sorting, coin dispensing, note dispensing, note sorting, cash redemption, monitoring cash handling, accounting for cash dispensing, providing for cash settlement, monitoring maintenance information and providing commands for controlling operation of at least one of other cash handling device;

a second cash handling device for performing at least one of the operations of coin counting, coin sorting, coin dispensing, note counting, note dispensing, note sorting and cash redemption that adds to the functional capabilities to the cash management system beyond the functional capabilities of the first cash handling device; and

wherein said first cash handling device and said second cash handling device communicate through a wireless communication network operating according to a network standard for locally distributed wireless networks.

2. The cash management system of claim 1, further comprising at least one I/O device selected from a group consisting of: a printer, a scanner, a visual display, a keyboard, a cell phone, a pager, a personal digital assistant and a personal computer.

3. The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the first cash handling device is electrically connected to a second network selected from a group consisting of: the Internet, an intranet, a LAN and a WAN.

4. The cash management system of claim 3, wherein the second network utilizes at least one of a telephone dial-up

modem, a digital satellite link modem and a broadband cable modem.

5. The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication network operates according to the Bluetooth specification.

6. The cash management system of claim 5, wherein the wireless communication network further operates according to the RS-232 protocol.

7. The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication network operates in a frequency hopping, spread spectrum range of frequencies in a range from 2.4 Ghz to 2.56 GHz.

8. The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication network operates in an infrared frequency range according to the IrDA standard.

9. The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication network operates in a piconet distinguished from other networks by a selected frequency hopping sequence.

10. An electronically controlled cash handling device, comprising:

a processing portion;

a program memory for storing a program for execution by the processing portion;

a cash input/output portion, the cash input/output portion processing I/O data related to a cash transaction performed by the cash handling device; and

a radio transceiver and antenna, the radio transceiver

transmitting signals to and receiving signals from the processing unit for communicating cash transaction data to and from an external device.

11. The cash handling device of claim 10, wherein the radio transceiver communicates cash handling data according to the Bluetooth communication specification.

12. The cash handling device of claim 10, wherein the cash input/output portion performs at least one of the following operations: coin sorting and totalizing, coin dispensing, note sorting and totalizing, and note dispensing.

13. The cash handling device of claim 12, wherein the radio transceiver communicates cash handling data according to the Bluetooth communication specification.

14. The cash handling device of claim 11, further comprising at least one I/O device selected from a group consisting of: a printer, a scanner, a visual display, a keyboard, a cell phone, a pager, a personal digital assistant and a personal computer.